

# The Stoker



**Stoke Golding Village Magazine**

*Including*

**Dadlington Matters**



### **Note from the Editors**

Welcome to our April edition. It's now officially Spring, so daylight hours are getting longer and with any luck we will be relishing some warmer weather, mingled with a few April showers.

Regular readers will spot that Beth's Corner this month has been written by Jennifer.

Beth is very happy to have returned home after a 7-week stint in hospital and is looking forward to resuming with this fascinating role very soon. Meanwhile, Jennifer enjoyed meeting up with Bill, see page 8.

Stoke Golding and Dadlington are both lively villages and we are fortunate to be able to be a part of it, with so much to appreciate. With our active schools, churches, scout groups, village halls and the WI, friends and families, not to mention our very own fool on the hill, how can there be a dull moment?

This month's Stoker magazine is as full as ever with a wide range of local news. We are sure there will be something of interest for all. Thank you for continuing to share your stories and photographs with us.

**Jane and Steve**



### **The Stoker Team**

*Editors:* Jane White (01455 212416), Steve Smithers (01455 213798)  
*Production Team:* Rosemary Collier, Beth Ellis, Richard & Ella Orr, Jan Pettyfer, Jill Webster, Jennifer Michie, Michael Dix.

Please send articles for the **May** issue of The Stoker **by 15th April** to:  
**The Editors, 45 Station Road, Stoke Golding.**  
**Email [thestoker@gmx.co.uk](mailto:thestoker@gmx.co.uk)**

If you can submit articles by e-mail or on a memory stick (Microsoft Word) it makes our job much easier, (**500 words maximum** please).

All correspondence, including e-mails, must include your full name, home address and home telephone number.

***N.B. All advertising enquiries to Ella Orr - [ella42@sky.com](mailto:ella42@sky.com)***

*Publication of any articles or letters submitted does not imply approval of, or agreement with, any views and comments contained, and are published without prejudice.*

*Cover picture: World Book Day at St. Margaret's School.*

## **Zootastic Celebration**

World Book Day 2019 was a zootastic celebration of reading at St. Margaret's in Stoke Golding. The children were visited by the author Kevin Price who is best known for his story, 'The Beauty Contest at The Zoo'. The children enjoyed a day sharing stories and made some fantastic zoo animals from vegetables. Children at St. Margaret's have a real love of reading. One of the school's new initiatives is their '100 book challenge' which encourages children to push their reading boundaries and try to read a range of classical and adventurous fiction whilst at the school. St. Margaret's once again won the Hinckley reading challenge this year and consistently see results in national tests reflecting the children's excellent reading skills. Reading, and the enjoyment of reading, is fundamental at St. Margaret's and World Book Day saw children celebrating this.

*Philippa Tomkins*  
*Year 6 teacher*

## **Fundraising Success for Comic Relief**



**G N WESTERN CONNECTION** Line Dancers, who meet on Tuesday nights in Dadlington Village Hall, raised £120 for Comic Relief at their social night on Tuesday 12 March.

**Coffee and Chat**, the community coffee morning for Dadlington and Stoke Golding, raised £110 from sales of home made cakes and drinks.

*Well done to both groups. We'd love to hear about any other fundraising activities - eds*

## **Solution to Crime in our Villages?**

Following a number of crimes in Stoke Golding and Dadlington, including the vandalising of the new hairdresser's salon in Stoke Golding on 15th March, Paul Sehmbi has suggested each household could pay a sum of money per week (probably about £1) to employ a security guard to patrol the streets at night. He is interested in your views.

Please get in touch with either Paul at Sehmbi Stores or the Stoker.

In the March edition of The Stoker, the question was posed:

“We would be interested in your feedback about the PC minutes. Do you prefer the full notes or for us to pick out a few items of interest?”



Whilst they might take up more page space, I believe that minutes should appear unedited to give a true reflection of what discussions took place, decisions were made and actions identified, see some minute taking guidelines below:

- Not a verbatim record of what was said at the meeting; but a record of what was discussed, approved or agreed, and a list of clearly defined actions
- Intended to be an aide-memoir for those taking part, a record of decisions made and an explanation of what happened for anyone who was not present
- Make sure you are well prepared before the meeting, knowing the purpose of each agenda item and what actions are expected
- Should be succinct and not a full transcript of the meeting, they are not a record of what was said, but a summary of what was discussed
- Each action is recorded in the minutes with a clearly defined statement of what will be done, who is responsible and a deadline date
- Should be checked by the chairperson before they are distributed to the other attendees within an agreed timeframe.

As an important communication medium for the village, The Stoker is the ideal tool to report without ‘spin’, ‘weighting’ or editing on matters which can ultimately have an impact on village residents, if only to engage, challenge and inform us.

Two areas of activity which spring to mind and whose outputs do/will ultimately have impact upon the village and its residents are the Parish Council and Neighbourhood Planning meetings.

Those involved in these activities give of their time for the good of the village, and the reporting of their activities through items like their minutes, can only go towards a better understanding of what they do, the progress they make, the challenges they face, and hopefully engender interest, support and involvement in what they do.

So, to answer the original question; yes, do report the minutes - and ideally their agendas in The Stoker in the edition prior to their next meetings – and no, don’t edit them, what might be considered of little interest to one person maybe resonates differently with another!

Graham Vallis

# Seasonal Warehouse/Packing Staff Needed at Simon the Beekeeper

( From April – September \*) *\*Start and end date may change due to volume of work.*

We are a small but steadily expanding online sales business based in Stoke Golding. We supply a wide range of beekeeping accessories world-wide via websites including Amazon, Ebay and our website:

simonthebeekeeper.co.uk / Email: simon@simonthebeekeeper.co.uk

Full or Part time hours available Monday to Saturday. Must be available to work on some Bank Holiday and Weekend days.

Typical shift is 8am – 3pm.

To apply or find out more, please contact Santi or Hanna on

01455 698242 or pop in and see us at :

**SIMON THE BEEKEEPER Ltd**

**Unit 14 , Willow Park , Upton lane , Stoke Golding , CV13**



## Stoke Golding Parish Council Update

The Stoke Golding Parish Council would like to inform residents that there will be no Annual Parish Meeting in April, due to Purdah restrictions during the pre-election period. However, the Parish Council will prepare an Annual Parish Report which will be delivered to all households in May.

In response to the question in the last edition of the Stoker  
“We would be interested in your feedback about the PC minutes. Do you prefer the full notes or for us to pick out a few items of interest?”  
the PC would like to make the following comment:

Stoke Golding Parish Council consider that the printing of Parish Council minutes in the Stoker provides a valuable service for residents, particularly those who cannot access the Parish Council notice board or online services. The Parish Council would prefer that the Stoker continues to print the full notes as prepared by the Parish Council. It would not be appropriate for the Stoker to select a few items of interest, as different items are of interest to different residents and, therefore, it would not be advisable to make this editorial judgement for residents.

## Village Litter Pickers

*Anybody seen the dog poo fairy?*

We recently joined the band of village litter pickers, who meet on the first Saturday of the month, to litter pick round the village. This wonderfully community-minded project is ably co-ordinated by Stephen Canessa and generously supported by Church End brewery and Alex at The George & Dragon, who provide sausage rolls and Scotch eggs for the volunteers. Details of future picks will be found on the village Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/430943613913556/?ref=group\\_header](https://www.facebook.com/groups/430943613913556/?ref=group_header)

It's amazing what you collect! Our "patch" included Station Road and the canal. We collected the usual beer cans (including a full can of Guinness from the canal. Presumably put in the cut to cool and forgotten. Must have been a good party!) waste paper, sweet wrappers, polystyrene foam insulation & fabrics. We also found two large, empty fuel bags stuffed in the hedge adjacent to a narrow boat which was, yes, you've guessed it, burning a fire. (Only circumstantial not evidential). But in this day and age the most surprising finds were 8 black, full, dog poo bags hanging in the hedge. Are these an offering to the dog poo fairy, to await collection?

I am sure that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible, and clean up after their dog but:

'Dog walkers please be wary,  
There's no such thing as the dog poo fairy'.

*Paul Spokes*

## CASAG

(Castlemead and Stoke Golding Action Group)



This month's Health Promotion event is Epilepsy.

Those of you who are regular readers will be aware that the notice board is changed on a regular basis in line with national campaigns.

CASAG stands for Castle Mead and Stoke Golding Action Group which is a patient participation group and was formed about 11 years ago.

The group has worked with the surgeries on various topics and had involvement in

the initial design of the web site, gave feedback when the appointment system was changed at Castle Mead surgery a couple of years ago and has also run some health promotion days. The group have also helped at the annual flu clinics. We meet bimonthly for about 1-1.5 hrs. The local representatives from Stoke Golding are myself Jennifer Michie, Bernard Arnold and Anne Fullagher.

We are always looking for new members to come along and get involved. So if you feel passionate about the surgery as we do, then contact the surgery and one of us will get in touch and let you know more about the group.

**Jennifer**

## The Ash

Ash was one of the first trees to colonise our landscape after the last ice age and being a singularly unfussy tree is widespread and one of our most common species. This comes as no surprise to anyone who lives close to an ash which spreads its seed by 'helicopter' every autumn and winter with outstanding success. Look around the village: saplings pop up in field and garden hedges everywhere and gardeners spend many an hour on hands and knees releasing the ruthless invader from prize plants. Angst aside, the sight of a mature ash in the countryside or woodland, with its graceful form and open domed canopy is a pleasure I take for granted.



With the news that Charlara ash die back, a fungal disease, which is widespread in Europe, has reached our shores came a change in attitude. At first confined to the East of England it is now reported throughout the country - Cheshire, Wales and the National Arboretum at Westonbirt, Gloucestershire and is likely to cause as much devastation as Dutch elm disease in the 1970's. Despite extensive research into resistant plants and a vaccination nothing has been found to date.

The symptoms are most likely to be spotted on saplings which show signs of stem discolouration, leaves turning brown and clinging to the stem and diamond shaped lesions on the trunk.

For the time being the village trees do not appear to be infected but once again a plea to walkers, dog walkers and anyone else to report any signs of the disease on highway trees to Stewart Marshall, tree officer with Leicestershire County Council, [stewart-marshall.leics.gov.uk](mailto:stewart-marshall.leics.gov.uk).

For my part I will echo our forbears conflicting interests. Legend has it that a cleft would be sliced into an ash tree for an ailing child to be passed through so that both would heal together. Woe betide anyone who threatened the child's tree. But, if any child turned up to school without an ash twig on Ash Wednesday they were likely to have their toes stomped on by the other children!

For my part I love the ash tree which grows nearby and will now remove the seedlings from my borders more gently and find a space for them to develop.

Karen Jones

Stoke Golding website: [www.stokegolding.co.uk](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk)



**Jennifer's Corner.** (Standing in for Beth's corner)

**Bill Shearer**



I know I go on about this but again I have stumbled upon another creative talent hiding within our community. I was asked to interview Bill Shearer as he is responsible for the Stoke Golding Calendar. This is the calendar of village scenes which is not to be confused by the one distributed by the school.

Bill told me that he and his partner moved to Stoke Golding in 2004 having stumbled on the village by accident while touring England on their narrowboat. They had bought the boat some years earlier and Bill had left a stressful job in London following a health scare when his

partner Chris was made redundant. For two years they lived on the boat and travelled around the countryside. While in Stoke Golding they fell in love with it, and the surrounding villages, so much that they came to stay.

Bill was born in Greenock, on the West Coast of Scotland, where the traditional industry was ship building. He left school and trained as a chef before moving to London where he worked his way up from the shop floor to become the Customer Services manager for Wedgwood. His knowledge and love of ceramics persists, and he still buys and sells today and admits to having a few "pieces" around the house.

Having left Wedgwood, he went back to college as a mature student and trained for four years to become a therapeutic counsellor, using the Psychodynamic approach based on Freudian principles. He still works part time today. He has also worked for MIND during his training and again, as a volunteer, in Hinckley.

Wanting a hobby after his health scare, and whilst in London, he turned a tiny cupboard into a dark-room to pursue an interest in photography. Shortly afterwards, a shop front became available to rent in a local 1960's arcade. As the arcade was about to be demolished, the rent was very modest however, in the 3 years before this happened, Bill successfully ran the shop selling picture and cards. Eventually the cards were so successful that they soon overtook the pictures as the primary line.

Also, at this time, an opportunity arose where Bill was asked to provide some of his work for a charity night, and raised £340.00, which was a lot of money at that time.

From this start, after coming to Stoke Golding, he took photographs of local scenes and sold them mainly through the post office. Some of his works of black and white photographs can be found on display in the George & Dragon pub, in the corridor between the two bars.

The idea of putting these pictures together came about having received a calendar from an old school friend of some of the scenes in his home town



of Greenock. This inspired him to create a similar thing of Stoke Golding. The calendar has been produced for the last 7 years, with the price remaining unchanged at the grand sum of £6.95. Each year over 100 copies are printed, and recently they have included contributions from other local residents. Traditionally the main outlet has been the old post office and the year it closed Bill was left with many calendars unsold.

For 2019, after a bit of persuasion from his printers, he printed 60 calendars and sold them via the pubs in the village and the Stoke Golding Community Facebook page. Bill described how he was bowled over by the response to the sale of the calendar via the Facebook page. He has sent calendars worldwide to places as far away as New Zealand, Australia and Spain, mainly to people who have links with friends or family members or who were formerly resident in Stoke Golding. A percentage of the sales from calendars is donated to charity.

Bill's other interests are cooking, dog walking and being involved in the community, especially visiting the three pubs in the village. He is obviously a good cook and both he and Chris enjoy entertaining.

It was lovely to spend time with Bill and have a chat about his fascinating life and expanding his hobby of photography and creating the calendars. Watch this space later in the year for how to get your local calendar.



## Rag Mama Rag



Rag Mama Rag, consisting of Ashley and Deborah Dow, entertained a capacity audience at Stoke Golding Village Hall for the first Stoke Arts production of the year. Playing mainly early 20th century blues and rag time, they soon had everyone tapping their feet and even joining in a couple of songs. Ashley played a variety of guitars and a couple of tunes on a ukulele as well as singing and Deborah mesmerised us with her harmonica, washboard and percussion.

We did have slight food envy with the table from Dadlington (our plastic box of crisps hardly matched their spread of chocolate coated strawberries and other beautifully presented delicacies) but the music was amazing and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

*Jane White*

## What a day!

On February 23rd about 18 members of the Ambion Voices, a community choir of ladies from the villages of Stoke Golding and Dadlington, could be found chatting enthusiastically outside The George & Dragon pub at 6.30am awaiting for a coach to Manchester.

The reason being that these ladies were representing the choir at a UK Choir festival where approximately 300 choristers from all over were also taking part. We were not the furthest travellers as some choir members had come from South Wales and even Iceland.

It was a jam-packed programme in a particularly hot school hall with hour-long workshops that included Acapella, Vocal Health and Ensemble with a lot of energetic moves as well as learning experience. The final workshop of Gospel was also full of clapping and moves. The energy generated in the hall was infectious.

Then it was the individual choir's chance to sing. We were third on following a 60-member choir which was only a smaller representative of a 300+ choir! There were all ages there including a choir from Leeds uni who had formed last September. It was a very supportive audience.

It was still a bit nerve wracking to stand on stage and sing, but we did ourselves proud. The vocal coaches will give us written feedback on our performance.

Unfortunately we had to leave before the end as the bus was waiting. So, after a day singing and bopping around, we were energised by some refreshments and sang all the way home!

Listening to comments on the bus everyone was very positive and exhilarated by the experience and had taken lots away from the day.

Finally, having a group hug outside The George about 8ish that evening, we dispersed home with lots to talk about with loved ones and other choir members at our next rehearsal.

So a BIG thank you to Rachel and Jane for organising the day and encouraging us to attend. We are already talking about the potential of something bigger for next year .... watch this space.



Jennifer

You have probably not met Clive. Clive is an Architect and he has a large collection of propelling pencils and an impressive array of black turtle neck jumpers. Clive is quite old now and does not go out much, however, in the 1960's he went out a lot to wine bars and drove a very nice Mini with a Union Jack on the roof. He was so fond of his Mini that he got his very best pencil out and designed a garage to park it in. The men who build houses liked his garage so much that they attached it to their new properties and everyone was happy.

Then cars got a bit bigger and the people who bought the houses found that, whilst they could still get their new cars into Clive's garage, they were then unable to get out of them. Not only was this inconvenient, it also made the garage effectively, useless. So instead of asking Clive to make a bigger garage people just parked the cars on their driveways instead. This, of course now meant that they had a small car sized space to put things in. Garages rapidly filled up with many, many things. Bicycles, sledges, canoes and gym equipment took the place of the car and, largely, stayed there gathering dust. As there was space around these large items, the gaps started to fill up with smaller items. Left over screws and curious shaped fixings from part completed DIY projects for example. And what about the half a box of wall tiles which were kept in case one should ever fall off? As we do not live in a country prone to earth tremors, this does not happen. Then, as by this time new family members have come along, the gaps left began to fill with discarded toys that had promised much on Christmas Day, but had become lumps of brightly coloured and fatally broken plastic by the time the decorations were taken down. These, and the decorations, were also put in the garage. Buried under this lot somewhere will be the family toolkit. This will take so long to unearth in an emergency, that it would be quicker for your plumber to drive from Warsaw to fix whatever it is that you have broken. Soon the children that discarded the toys will have grown to be fully fledged, car owning members of society. Time for Clive to design the new mega garage then? Well, no. The extra cars simply filled the drive space and then spilled out onto the road. House builders by this time had tried to cram more houses into a smaller space and so, driveways were made shorter and the streets narrower. This will mean of course, that the emergency services will no longer be able to get through the road block that is your estate as your house burns down or your leg falls off.

Someone give Clive a call. He would love to hear from you.

F.O.T.H.



# Dadlington Matters



Dadlington Village Hall's Famous

## QUIZ EVENING

Saturday 13th April

Bar opens 7:00pm

Food Served 7:30pm

Teams of up to 8 people

Tickets cost £9

(includes a hot meal)

For tickets, contact Sally-ann Faulks at:  
dvhmc2015@gmail.com



Dadlington  
Village Hall  
presents

## Summer Ball

Saturday 8th June



Buffet & Bar

Dancing to Dean Thomas

Formal Dress Optional

Tickets £25 from Sally-ann Faulks at  
sallyannfaulks@gmail.com or  
01455 212456

### Ten of a Kind (answers on page 30)

The 23<sup>rd</sup> April is St George's Day, so here are ten questions about Georges.

1. Which George was followed by John, Thomas, two James and a John Quincy?
2. Who played George in the 1960's ITV comedy series George and the Dragon?
3. Who ran away when the boys came out to play?
4. Which newspaper does former Chancellor George Osborne edit?
5. Georgios Kyriacos Panayiotou, born 1963, had a string of chart successes as part of a duo and then as a solo artist in a 35 year career. What is he better known as?
6. The US state of Georgia was named after King George II. Where is the state capitol?
7. Who is George Pig's older sister?
8. Which island nation was awarded the George Cross for enduring a two year siege by German and Italian forces in World War II?
9. In which field of the arts was Georges Seurat a leading figure in 19<sup>th</sup> century France?
10. George Stephenson was called 'The Father of the Railways' and created the world's first intercity line between which two UK cities?

**Kitchen Corner**  
*Something for Easter*  
**Roast Leg of Lamb in Redcurrant Jelly, Sugar and Wine**

**INGREDIENTS**

**1 Leg of Lamb (boned and tied)**  
**½ pint (275ml) Chicken Stock**  
**2 Cloves of Garlic, peeled and crushed**  
**1 tsp. Mixed Herbs**  
**2 tblsp. Redcurrant Jelly**  
**2 tblsp. Brown Sugar**  
**¼ pint (150ml) Red Wine**

**METHOD**

Pre-heat the oven at 140C/275F or gas mark 2

Take a large roasting tin, pat the meat dry and place in the tin. Melt the redcurrant jelly until runny and brush over the meat. Spoon the brown sugar over the jelly and sprinkle with the mixed herbs. Pour the hot stock AROUND the meat, not over it and put into a pre-heated oven for 4-4 ½ hours. Long slow cooking lets all the flavours mingle and tenderises the

meat.

After 2 hours remove from the oven and pour the red wine around the meat, the place back in to the oven for the rest of the cooking time.

When the time is up, remove from the oven and wrap the meat in foil and leave to rest in a warm place. Let the sauce in the pan cool down and then skim off any excess fat. Mix 1 tblsp. of cornflour with a little water, add to the sauce and bring slowly to the boil, stirring all the time until it has thickened slightly.

Carve the meat and serve with the delicious sauce and your favourite vegetables.

N.B. If the joint is fairly small, reduce the cooking time to 3-3 ½ hours.

**Happy Easter.**



**THE WHITE SWAN, Stoke Golding**

**A country pub serving freshly prepared, home cooked food**

Opening hours - Tues 18:00 -23:45  
Wed - Sat 12:00 - 14:30 18:00 - 23:45  
Sun 12.00 - 16.00 18.00 - 23.45  
Closed Mondays



**Call us to book  
a table on  
01455 212313**



## Scout Group News

What have the Group been up to....?

Well, what do you do with 6 pints of milk, a bag of flour, 15 eggs, lemon juice, caster sugar and low calorie oil spray? Make pancake batter for the cubs and beavers. The cubs cooked their pancakes and tossed them. The beavers helped with theirs and the scouts cooked it all from scratch.

The cubs have hosted the District Hockey tournament where at least 10 teams turned up from all over. We were expecting around 5! Those not involved with the hockey went for a walk across the fields and down the canal and back to the hall. A local resident did say she had heard us that night from afar!



The cubs have held a pack forum - a section towards their Team Challenge Badge - and came up with interesting ideas, from sky diving to a sleep over with popcorn and toasting marshmallows!

The Beavers have, apart from eating pancakes, been spying and writing with invisible ink etc.

There are a few secretive things going on in the

next few weeks and all will be revealed next time.

The scouts, apart from cooking and eating pancakes, have been doing first aid, shooting and attending the District Quiz.

Fionna and John have been attending meetings in Leicester about the big international Charnwood camp, which last time had over 5,000 guides and scouts, to be held in the summer!

Sorry to be a bit repetitive but it's all happening again! Jennifer



*We wonder if we can join this Scout group? They always have so much fun...  
Eds*

## Public Footpaths

After a previous article about old maps of Dadlington, a reader contacted me with an enquiry about where he might find information about a right of way. Whilst I was unable to find evidence of the footpath he was looking for, I did discover some interesting information about rights of way and also what is called 'the definitive map' of footpaths in our area.

Most rights of way were created between 1750 and 1850 when commissioners went out across the country, dividing up the land in a process called enclosure. They are paths that anyone has the right to pass along on foot and in certain cases on horseback, on cycles and in horse drawn vehicles. A footpath becomes a right of way if it has been dedicated as such by the landowner, an unusual occurrence, or if it has been in common use for a period of 20 years. Your legal right is to pass and re-pass along the path and you are allowed to stop to rest, admire the view or consume food. You can also take prams, pushchairs, wheelchairs and dogs although there is no compulsion on the landowner to make the surface suitable for such accompaniments.

Not all footpaths are rights of way. Some are called permissive paths where a landowner has given his or her permission to cross the land, but doesn't want it to become a right of way. Often, they will close the path for one day a year to ensure they don't fall foul of the 20 year rule.

In June 2015, Leicestershire County Council created a nine and a half mile circular walk starting at Bosworth Battlefield and passing through Stoke Golding and Dadlington, calling it Ambion Way. From the battlefield centre, it passes through Ambion Woods to Sutton Cheney Wharf, then follows the Leicestershire Round to Rogues Lane. The path then heads off to the Ashby Canal until it heads off north to Shenton Hall and then back to the battlefield. For those feeling less energetic, a shortcut exists, although the walk may take much longer this way as it passes four public houses.

*Michael Dix*





# What's On



## Coffee and Chat at Dadlington Village Hall

*Come for a friendly chat with other residents from Dadlington and Stoke Golding while enjoying delicious home-made cakes and a cuppa.*

**Thursday 4th April  
&  
Thursday 9th May**  
**(please note change of  
date due to polling day)**  
**10.15 am - 12.15pm**  
**All Welcome**

## St James' Church Dadlington



### Flower Festival

### "The Holiday of a Lifetime"

May 4th, 5th, 6th

Church open  
12 noon to 5pm

Light lunches, tea and  
coffee and various  
stalls in the Village  
Hall.



## FASHION SHOW by Edinburgh Woollen Mill

FRIDAY APRIL 12th at 2pm

In the Methodist church Hall

Admission £3.50 to include tea &  
cakes

20% discount  
off purchases

Tel 213490 for  
tickets or pay on  
the door



## THE METHODIST CHURCH

SATURDAY APRIL 6th

## Spring Fair

10.00am-2.00pm

Cakes &  
Preserves

Books & Bric-a-brac

Raffle & Tombola

Coffee & Light lunches



## StokeArts at the Village Hall \*\*Dates for your diary, 2019



**Saturday 27 April:** Sounds of Simon.

**Saturday 22 June:** Richard Durrant,

**Saturday 21 September:** Claude Bourbon

**Saturday 30 November:** Flossie Malvalialle in Concert.

All concerts start at 8pm (doors open 7.30pm).

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Tickets for all concerts: £10 (£8 child).

<https://stokearts.yapsody.com>

tel: 01455 213798

email: [stokearts@gmail.com](mailto:stokearts@gmail.com)



# MARKET BOSWORTH FESTIVAL 7-23 JUNE

for full details, tickets, venues, etc. visit [www.bosworthfestival.co.uk](http://www.bosworthfestival.co.uk)

## “WEEKEND of ART” JUNE 8th - 9th

June 8 & 9th Open Art Exhibition, Dixie Grammar School - entries invited.

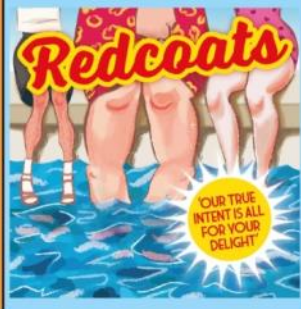
Photography Competition : winning photos displayed in the library

June 9th : Art Trail in the town - open studios to visit, participants invited.

June 9th : Pop in the Park - Bosworth Country Park

### MIKRON THEATRE

Friday June 7th



### HISTORY WARDROBE

WOMAN IN GOLD

Tuesday June 11th



### BACH and the BAROQUE ORGAN

with Nigel Allcoat

Wednesday June 12th



## Summer Soul Party

Solid Soul + Amy Winehouse

Tribute

Saturday  
June 15th

Bosworth  
Sports  
Club



## The BIG WEEKEND

Friday 21st June, times tbc.

Boules Final and  
French themed  
evening with  
buffet & music by  
Fifi LaMer



Saturday 22nd  
10-4pm

Lots of Music  
Entertainment,  
Children's Events  
& Craft Market  
- mostly FREE !



Sunday 23rd  
12 - 3pm

Wind down with an  
afternoon of music  
on the Parish Field



Romeo &  
Juliet

Open air theatre, Heartbreak Productions  
Thursday June 20th

Here is the second half of Ena Heel's poem entitled '**Stoke Golding**' written just after the Second World War, with explanatory notes by Michael Roberts and photos from the Webster Collection.

Now Station Road busiest of all  
With shops, and early Methodist Hall  
If you're asking 'Grammar School where?'  
You reply 'facing Leicester Square.'  
The railway isn't far away  
With trains a shunting all the day  
The Bone Mill then appears in view  
Where old dead donkeys used to stew



*Leicester Square stood opposite the Old Grammar School. It comprised of old houses demolished in the late 1930s*

Up the hill there's yet more shocks,  
For you come to a factory making socks,  
And here, in spite of countless rifts,  
The village belles are working shifts.  
Higher up you have to face  
The perfume of the fish meal place  
And when you've passed this fragrant spot  
There's the tap-tap-tap of the cobbler's shop.



*The factory was of course Hall's. the building has now been converted into apartments. The fishmeal place was animal food and almost faced the Grammar School. It was rented by Palmers of Wykin Field Farm. The cobbler's shop was a wooden building on a piece of ground just past the Grammar School, going up the hill. The cobbler was Harry Towers, brother of the famous Tom Towers of Boys' Club fame.*

The Co-op store you'll spot, no doubt,  
With Mr Daniels doing 'divi' out  
And butcher Henson with a song  
Selling rationed meat all day long  
The 'George and Dragon' crowns it all  
With a car park by a sheltered wall  
And here the youth it's sad to say  
Pass many an idle hour away



*I was one of the youths who passed 'away many an idle hour'. It was the place where the Village Notice Board is today. In those days no cars parked there and it was the meeting place for boys of the village.*



Now Wykin Lane without a doubt  
 Is the only road to boast about  
 With villas gay in private lots  
 On a boulevard with grassy plots  
 The 'Elms' is soon identified  
 For a silver birch stands either side  
 And hard by there a tennis court  
 Provides the most exclusive sport



*The tennis courts were at the bottom of Thornfield Avenue. It was also possible to reach them through a field at the side of 'West View'.*

More neat villas here appear  
 With lovely meadows at the rear  
 And the Vicarage in its lovely hide  
 Here Father and mother Lambert bide  
 The council houses all sedate  
 The 'Willow Farm' by duck pond gate  
 With stately 'Oaklands' last of all  
 The smart abode of Councillor Hall.



*Father Lambert was the Rev. Leonard Lambert, Vicar of St Margaret's Church*

Whatever your fancies or your views  
 There's plenty of roads of which to choose  
 The only trouble is I fear  
 We have no empty houses here  
 You cannot build, you cannot buy  
 The rent of rooms is far too high  
 And so you're better off by far  
 To live and like it where you are.



*This verse explains the difficulty, after the Second World War, in finding a property to buy or rent. Many newly married couples lived with the bride or grooms parents.*

Stoke Golding website: [www.stokegolding.co.uk](http://www.stokegolding.co.uk)

### **A VOLUNTEER FOR A MERCY SHIP.**

Frances Rathbone went to a W.I meeting one day and when the speaker had concluded their talk she came away determined to volunteer to help on a Mercy Ship. On returning home Frances immediately put into action her application to join such a ship that was to be moored at Douala in the Cameroons. So began the very interesting talk for Stoke Golding W.I. members.

Francis then went on to tell us of the prolonged and in many cases difficult journey she had to undertake to be accepted for this relief work, where children and adults are treated by professional doctors and surgeons, to overcome their many different medical and surgical problems.

She herself was not a medical person; indeed she was an ex-police officer so she applied to do 'housekeeping' and was accepted. After fund raising and also using her own money as all expenses had to be met by herself, she was able to fly out to the Cameroons and join the hospital ship.

So at nearly 60 years of age she found herself cleaning decks, wards, toilets and whatever else was needed in order to help desperate people become whole again. Francis said that although the work was really hard it was all very worthwhile as it was a joy to see children with misaligned legs and spines or cleft palates and hare lips, given hope when the surgeons had worked their miracles. Adults too benefited when growths were removed from faces etc and ladies who had problems due to childbirth were given help.

She met many nationalities all willing to give their time and effort and made many friends. Also she did have some time free to be able to visit the homes of workers employed on the ship from the surrounding areas and much to her delight she was able to take part in an ascent of Mount Cameroon.

Francis was on board the ship for 3 months and then returned home and the Mercy Ship then moved on to another harbour in Africa to carry on the good work.

What a splendid talk and what an exceptional lady Francis Rathbone is.

Our next meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Methodist Hall is all about making a clay pot. It should be good fun and as usual anyone is welcome to join in.

*Val Hartwell*

## The Big Sleep Out - Saint Martin's Catholic Academy



Forty-three staff and students from Saint Martin's Catholic Academy swapped their comfy bedrooms to sleep rough in the outdoor courtyard of the school in order to bring attention to the issue of youth homelessness. Through sponsorship they raised an amazing £3,371.41 for Lawrence House, a Hinckley based charity that supports homeless young people.

This was a particularly relevant charity for St Martin's to support as the Late Sister Louis Bertrand OP, the first Principal of St. Martin's Academy, laid the foundation stone of Lawrence House on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1992.

The evening began with an opening liturgy led by the children. The pupils had an opportunity to reflect on the Good Samaritan Scripture reading and how they can show kindness and compassion to others. Ms. Louise Adams, Project Manager from Lawrence House, joined them and delivered a short talk on the history of Lawrence House and how they support young people.

Organiser of the event, Lay Chaplain Mrs Lucy Chapman, said

"It was a brilliant experience to be a part of, watching our young people show such compassion and love for people that they may never meet and having the opportunity to make such a great impact to the work of Lawrence House."

If you are inspired to support homeless youth in Hinckley, donations can be given through the Hinckley Homeless Charity at <http://hinckleyhomeless.com/>  
<http://www.saint-martins.net/>



*Stacy Frith, Librarian*

# Church Matters

## From St Margaret's Church



### Trust me – I'm a Priest!

By the time that you read this we may all be in a brexited coloured world. You will certainly have lost an hour of your life on the last day of March – and given thanks for the world's Mums on the same day.

Time flies. I am sure it flies faster as I grow older. The first day of April last year just doesn't seem a whole year away. 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 was Easter Day and this year Easter falls on 21<sup>st</sup> April. But a whole twelve months ago?

Of course we have been brexiting like mad for all that time. To me all the discussion, debate and argument come down to 'who decides things?' How much are we willing to share decision-making in order to be part of various groupings. And, of course, what sort of decisions are we delegating to others – and who are the others?

I wonder if you have a similar problem to mine – that is, mixing my faith with my thoughts about brexit. Even in this article we have jumped from the date of Easter to the date of leaving the EU, and on what terms. It seems awkward to me – a crunching of gears as we pass from faith to political issues. On the whole, I find using the same language when discussing Easter and brexit very strange – forced even.

My brain hurts as I watch time rushing by and difficult decisions being aired and re-aired – but I arrive at a single word. It is not the answer to it all – as if! – but, for me it is the fundamental word that needs to be considered in every part of our lives. And what is more, I fancy that I see less of it in our present day world.

The word, is 'TRUST'. It is to do with mothers' relationship to their children. And, when we put our clocks forward it is with trust that others will do the same! And our political system is based on electing members of parliament to act in a trustworthy manner – for us. And it does raise the question of can we ever trust those who are 'different' from ourselves – in race, language, customs and history to also act for the common good?

And dare we put our trust in God the Father who raised our Lord Jesus Christ from death on the first Easter Day.

Alan Davis



# Church Matters

## Church of England April Services

### St. Margaret's Church

7th	10.30am	Morning Worship
14th	10.30am	Benefice Stoke Golding
16th	6.30pm	Holy Communion
21st	10.30am	Easter Communion
28th	10.30am	Morning Worship

### St. James's Church

7th	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer
14th	10.30am	Benefice Stoke Golding
19th	2.00pm	Meditation on the cross
21st	9.00am	BCP Holy Communion
28th	9.00am	BCP Morning Prayer

## The Methodist Church April Services

7th	10.30am	Mr Malcolm Lapper
14th	10.30am	Mr John Cooke
19th	3.00pm	Revd Wes Hampton <b>(Good Friday)</b>
21st	10.30am	Revd Wes Hampton
28th	10.30am	Mrs Joan Ledson

## Zion Baptist Chapel April Services

7th	6.30pm	Steven Connor
14th	6.30pm	Wynne Richards
21st	6.30pm	Malcolm Welch
28th	6.30pm	Martyn Owens

## Pushchair Wanted

Does anyone have a pushchair we could either buy or borrow for our 2 year old grandson please? My son and his family (who live in Australia) are staying with us from 20th April - 20th June.

Either email me: [janewhitesg@gmail.com](mailto:janewhitesg@gmail.com) or ring me on 01455 212416 if you can help.

Thank you

Jane White



# Redmoor Academy Update

## Message from the Principal

As we approach the exam season again, our Year 11 students are feeling the pressure and below, we outline some of the approaches we take as a school to have a positive impact on the well-being of our students. This is not just for Year 11 of course as the holistic personal development of students is as important to us as their academic success. Delivering positive GCSE results for every student, developing the “soft” skills of independence, resilience, creativity etc and ensuring our students are “good” people remain our core values.

## Year 11 Well Being Programme

Our ethos at Redmoor is to provide our children with an excellent academic experience, whilst also developing the whole child. We want our students to be educated, happy and participating members of society. In the run up to exams, there is a huge amount of work taking place to make sure that the best GCSE results are gained, from intervention and personal coaching, to Easter revision sessions and A level master classes to support our high ability learners. However, we also want to emotionally support our students during this time. So this term, we have put in place a well being programme, which gives our students access to sessions that will help this deal with exam stress. They can choose from baking, yoga, mindfulness, sport, stress management and reading. Over a get together and bacon butties, we also launched our year 11 prom, which promises again to be a wonderful celebration of their achievements and time with us.

## Yr 10 National Apprenticeship Show

On the 12th March 2019, year 10 students from Redmoor Academy visited The National Apprenticeship Show in Milton Keynes. The show hosted over 100 employers and providers showcasing opportunities in an interactive and informative setting. Large household names such as Amazon, Superdrug and Lloyds were among public services such as the NHS, Fire and Rescue Services and Police Forces. The day provided students with a further insight into potential post-16 pathways and opened new doorways to those who hadn't before considered this option. Definitely a worthwhile experience for us all.

## Luke Stevenson Yr 10

## Charity/ Community Work

Redmoor students rose to the challenge of raising money for Comic Relief by holding a bake sale. Their cake making skills were most impressive. Led by our student council, lots of money was raised for the charity. Upcoming charity events include our work with the local food bank and an environmental challenge to care for our local and national landscapes.



## Redmoor Enrichment Course

Preparations are being made for our annual REC week in June. Every year, we invest in a week of out of classroom experiences for our students to enhance their education. This year they can choose from a week's cookery tour in France, a week exploring the history of Krakow, a theatrical tour including the West End, The Globe and RSC and other sporting and outdoor activities such as camping, surfing, climbing and canoeing. We look forward to sharing some pictures of our students' experiences in the summer term.



I hope you have found this update from Redmoor Academy useful and for further information, to arrange a visit during the school day or to discuss future opportunities to work together, please visit our website or us at 01455 230731 or at [office@redmooracademy.org](mailto:office@redmooracademy.org)

*Lisa Hickman*  
Assistant Vice Principal



# 70 Trees for 70 Years

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You can sponsor a tree to be planted on Saint Martin's grounds for only £20 for this price you would get your sapling (oak, birch, cherry or field maple) and a metal tree tag engraved with the words of your choice.

All orders should be place by Wednesday 20th March  
Saplings will be planted on Saturday 6th April  
**Join us for breakfast and bring a Garden Spade!**

Families or businesses can also sponsor a much larger tree to add to our beautiful collection, for between £200-£300 you can plant a 2m+ Giant Redwood, Willow, Cedar or other specimen tree of your choice.

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*A continuation, from last month, of David Abbot's article entitled 'Some Reflections on the Phenomenon of Religious Experience'*

Such terminology as division of labour would seem to belong to the discipline of economics yet in some respects has implications for religion. Indeed it is this aspect of modern life, gathering pace since the industrial revolution, which is largely responsible for us being somewhat detached from the roots of our being, in effect, our close intimate association with the land and the seasons. For those however who are still sufficiently sensitive to this aspect of our culture, thoughtful reflection must of necessity culminate in a realization of our interdependency.

Sadly, however, as suggested much of these sensitivities have been lost in a modern industrial society as we have moved away from agrarian cottage industry type conditions, producing our own food and often clothing as well. It is indeed this earthly experience and sort of dialogue with nature that can develop into a genuine desire to discover some ultimate meaning and purpose to human life, ensuring the religious spirit can thrive. Also the liturgy seems to be more accommodating to this rural outlook since this is the culture in which it arose as the mass speaks of it directly in referring to a God who is Lord and blessed of creation to whom we give thanks. Hardly surprising the

monastic life should revolve around such a traditional way of life.

Finally, it is often claimed that religion in the first instance is caught, not only by the example of Jesus himself, but also from coming under the influence directly of someone who has lived the message of the gospel. The list of course is endless with reference to the lives of the saints.

For St Augustine of Hippo this was his mother, Monica, as well as Ambrose, archbishop of Milan. Also St Francis readily comes to mind with respect not only to the influence and inspiration he provided for contemporaries, but also for us today. And in similar vein for those embracing the monastic life, though not exclusively, saints Bernard and Benedict.

In conclusion, for me personally, I came very much under the influence and inspiration of Hinckley Dominican parish priest, Fr Casimir, who received me into the Catholic Church when I was still a young man.

*David Abbott B.Ed. Theology/  
Education  
Stoke Golding*

## Staffroom Memories 18: Taiwan Part 1

“Would anyone like to try the shrimp’s brains?” the waiter enquired. “He will,” came the reply as nine fingers pointed towards me. A ten-day British Council visit to look at Taiwan’s education system was turning out to be quite a learning curve.

Being a bit of a magpie, I liked to visit other schools and steal all their best ideas. This was the idea behind the British Council visit: take ten British headteachers, put them in Taiwanese schools and let all concerned learn from each other. In practice, the Taiwanese schools and culture were so different from our own that it was hard to find much that would work in our own schools. For example, most of their primary schools had over a thousand pupils and at lunch and play breaks, the children would all go outside with absolutely no adult supervision whatsoever: the older children took responsibility for the younger children and it worked brilliantly. Whilst we’d have liked to try it out in our British schools, we could all see the headlines in the national papers. Taiwanese society is highly aspirational (a good thing), is fairly law abiding and deferential to authority (another good thing), and obsessed with tests (not a good thing as evidenced by their high teenage suicide rate). English schools are frequently hammered by politicians and the media for not doing as well as South East Asian schools in international tests, but it has far more to do with the culture than the quality of teaching or the methods used. It is no coincidence that the ethnic group that performs best in our British system is children from China and South East Asia.

On our first day in Taiwan, we were free to explore the city. Our British Council hosts had taught us a few words of Chinese on the coach from the airport and one of my colleagues was very keen to try these out. “Che che,” he would say to anyone who helped him in any way. When he said this to our hosts as we boarded the coach on day 2, they enquired what he was trying to say. “I’m saying Thank you,” he explained. “Oh dear,” they replied, “Thank you is pronounced chi chi.” It transpired he’d been thanking everybody by saying the Chinese word for toilet. No wonder there were so many bemused shopkeepers!

Now I’m a bit of a fussy eater. I confided to another colleague that I was concerned about what I was going to eat over the ten days. However, when I came down to breakfast on the first morning, there was a magnificent selection of local delicacies. Some of the other headteachers were tucking into their traditional English, but I decided on a selection of noodles, beans and strange looking fish in exotic sauces. With that one move, my reputation as the one who’d try anything was established and every time we were offered something unfamiliar, I was volunteered for trying it. Jellyfish anyone?

*Michael Dix*

## **Notes from Stoke Golding Parish Council, March Meeting (Draft)**

*Matters arising from February's meeting:* Wykin Lane wildflower area noticeboard – renovation was now complete. Hinckley Road bus shelter - renovation was now complete. Village Noticeboard – relocation was complete and renovation was in progress.

*Reports of elected officers of the Council and the Clerk:* Playground inspection - The surface wear between swing framework will be monitored.

*Ground Maintenance Report:* An emergency repair to a street name sign was agreed, at a cost of £30. An emergency repair to the pavilion guttering was agreed, at a cost of £25. Wykin Lane wildflower meadow topping was agreed, at a cost of £75.00.

*Reports from Councillors on meetings they attended relating to Parish Council work.* A report by Cllr Mitchell on the public event and discussion with the Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable was noted. A report by Cllr Pegg on a meeting with the groundsman and D M to thin out trees at Wykin Lane wild area was noted. The Clerk to thank DM.

*Planning Applications:*

*New Applications:*

37 Wykin Lane – proposed studio and playroom above approved garages.

Resolved comment: In the context of the surrounding area the Parish Council considers this application to be overdevelopment on an inappropriate site. The Parish Council requests that if the application is agreed a condition should be imposed to restrict future use to the that stated in the application.

35 Arnold Road – proposed single storey front and side extension.

Land east of Stoke Road – agricultural building for livestock with associated hardstanding.

2 Whitemoors Close – two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

*Permissions approved:*

63 Hinckley Road – two storey side extension and single storey front extension.

Minutes of Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) meetings and recommendations: *Minutes of the NPAC meetings held on the 18th February 2019 were noted.* Cllr Beale was appointed as Chair of the NPAC and Mervin Ward as Vice-Chair. An update by Cllr Beale on progress was noted.

*Update on Sport in Stoke Golding (SISG):* An update by Cllr Pegg on progress was noted and SISG will meet shortly to discuss the initial requirements from sports' groups and the Village Hall Management Committee including plans and initial costs.

*Works at Hinckley Road Cemetery*

Wall and Gate Damage: *The Clerk to give the contractor 14 days to pay before further legal advice is sought to recover the debt.* Litter Basket: *The application for a litter basket has been approved by the Diocesan Advisory Committee and public consultation will end on the 14th March. The faculty will then be issued.* Boundary: *The hedge work was complete, at an agreed cost of £520.* Comments from a resident were noted and the Clerk to restate the previous statement from the Parish Council regarding this matter.

Works to St Margaret's Churchyard wall: *Quotes were still being sought*

1485 trail: *A report and vision document for the proposed sculpture trail and*

*comments from the PCC were noted. The Clerk to confirm support in principle subject to agreement on appropriate location, size and maintenance considerations for the sculpture.*

*Memorial safety – gravestone repairs: The safety inspection at the churchyard was complete and no work to memorials was necessary. It was noted that the iron railings around the family grave at the front of the church were loose. The Clerk to seek a quote for repair of the railings.*

The safety inspection on the left side of Hinckley Road Cemetery was complete and assessment of the paperwork was still pending. Two memorials, C102 and C19, had been laid down for safety, and notices have been put the memorials to notify family members. The family of C102 has made the arrangements to carry out the work.

*Pump track: A report by Cllr Goodsell on possible location, insurance, implications and initial costs was noted. The Clerk to contact the Football and Cricket Clubs to inform them that this proposal is being considered by the Parish Council.*

*Heritage Street name signs: Arrangements have been made to install heritage street name signs on Convent Drive, Ryelands Crescent and Ridgeway, at a total cost of £916. The Parish Council to pay 50% contribution of £458.*

*Reports for the Annual Parish Meeting: The Parish Council will not hold an APM meeting in April due to Purdah restrictions in the pre-election period. The Parish Council will issue an Annual Parish Report to all households in May.*

*Pitch hire fees and requests for use of FB pitches and cricket field: Requests for use of facilities, from the Cricket Club and Youth FB Club, for 2019/20 season were noted. Fees for the Cricket Club and Youth FB Club were agreed and the Clerk to confirm fees, and invoice accordingly.*

*Cemetery administration matters: It was agreed to approve the fees for the cemeteries 2019/20 in-line with Hinckley and Bosworth charges. It was agreed to approve the expenses for cemetery administration, at a cost of £63.51. It was agreed that a request for a kerb around four graves at Hinckley Road Cemetery should be declined.*

*Communications received by the Clerk*

*Written: A request from the PCC to support a Developing Communities Fund application was noted and support agreed. Resident's comments regarding the Neighbourhood Plan were noted.*

*Verbal:*

Comments from a resident regarding work in Hinckley Road Cemetery were noted. Information regarding Lions' Charity 'Message in a Bottle Scheme' was noted. Stoker request for comments regarding Parish Council minutes were noted and the Clerk to submit a comment on behalf of the PC.

*Future agenda items: To consider a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, (June 2019 agenda)*

*Annual review of performance for ground maintenance contract: It was noted that the annual walk around and review of performance for the ground maintenance contractor had taken place and all was satisfactory. The Clerk to confirm the contract for 2019/20.*

**Next meeting: Methodist Hall, Wednesday 3rd April at 7pm**





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### Answers to 10 of a Kind

1. George Washington
2. Sid James
3. Georgie Porgie in the nursery rhyme
4. Evening Standard,
5. George Michael
6. Atlanta,
7. Peppa Pig
8. Malta,
9. He was a post-impressionist artist
10. Liverpool and Manchester

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